

*Oral Questions***FISHERIES**

DISCLOSURE OF KIRBY TASK FORCE REPORT CONTENTS

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Madam Speaker, I have a question I would like to direct to the Prime Minister. It concerns the status of the Task Force report relating to the Atlantic fisheries. I am sure the Prime Minister is aware of the difficult conditions which exist in the Atlantic fisheries because of the delay in making public the report of the Task Force which dealt with the Atlantic fisheries. My question relates to the Government and Cabinet policy with respect to such public inquiries.

What is the position of the Prime Minister with respect to disclosure of parts of the report which are made known to the public in various ways by leaks from the persons involved in the Task Force and by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, himself? He must know this creates a state of confusion. What is he going to do about it? And what is his policy with respect to these leaks and the misinforming of the public on such a vital matter?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member is asking about our policy on leaks. Our policy is to condemn them firmly.

REQUEST THAT RECOMMENDATIONS BE MADE PUBLIC

Mr. Howard Crosby (Halifax West): Madam Speaker, the Prime Minister has just condemned his own Minister of Fisheries and Oceans because he is responsible for the leaks in an interview with a correspondent in London, England, when he disclosed certain vital aspects of the recommendations made by the Task Force on the Atlantic fisheries. Will the Prime Minister, knowing the difficult state of the Atlantic fisheries, indicate to those persons intimately involved with that troubled industry, what the Government proposes to do? When is it going to make the recommendations public? When is it going to come up with a policy to resolve some of the problems? Or is he just going to let the Atlantic fishing fleet flounder on a sea of government indecision?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, I heard, and so did you, the Minister of Fisheries answer that very question yesterday when he dealt with the Kirby Report, and he even referred to the Pearse Report, and indicated it was before the Government, and that their recommendations would be brought forth. That was the answer the Minister gave. I am not quite sure why the Hon. Member is asking a repeat of the same question.

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MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP FOR FORMER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants): My question is also directed to the Prime Minister. I would like to know how

he reconciles his penetrating philosophical views about "the anti-democratic reflex reactions of the Liberal flocks of sheep", when they flip-flopped on Bomarc in 1963, with the independent action of the Hon. Member for Ottawa-Vanier who "raised his voice against the dictatorship of the Leader", and last week voted against Bill C-133, only to lose his very membership on the relevant Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Madam Speaker, as a matter of curiosity, when the Hon. Member said, "raised his voice against a dictator", who was he quoting from?

QUERY RESPECTING PRIME MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants): Madam Speaker, perhaps the Prime Minister has selective amnesia. It sometimes inculcates the very interesting mind of the Prime Minister. I am quoting from the Prime Minister's article in "Cité Libre" of April, 1963, when the then philosopher was commenting on the dictatorship of the then Prime Minister, Mr. Pearson. My supplementary, Madam Speaker, is that in that article the Prime Minister of today, as a philosopher then, wrote, and I quote:

I notice amongst the old guard Liberals a degrading cynicism that remains unchanged; amongst the young Liberals I observe the same obsequious—

Madam Speaker: Order. Order! The question period is to entertain questions, not long quotations.

Mr. Nowlan: My question is very short and very much to the point, and it very much involves the whole political morality of this Government.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Nowlan: And to continue the quotation, which the Prime Minister wrote in his own hand—

Madam Speaker: Order. Order!

Mr. Nowlan: I would like to ask the question.

Madam Speaker: Order. Order! I can certainly give the floor to the Hon. Member to ask the question, but not to debate and not to make lengthy quotations. And I am not treating him in any other way than I am treating other Members of the House.

Mr. Nowlan: Madam Speaker, I will try to observe your restrictive stricture.

Madam Speaker: What is the question?

Mr. Nowlan: My question to the Prime Minister, Madam Speaker, is this. Having developed an interesting reputation for political philosophy before he became a practising politician, why has he changed his mind from the article in 1963 when he talked about "old guard Liberal cynicism", and he, God forbid, "never trampled on democracy"? Is not what